

Remarks

The interview with examiners Smith and Truong on March 23, 2005 is acknowledged with appreciation. The examiner's summary of what transpired is accurate.

Claims 14-33 remain in this application. Claims 14-33 are amended.

Claims 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The office action asserts that “[T]he applicant's disclosure provides no support for a device that is having both pneumatic actuator and manual actuator in the same embodiment.” and “[F]urthermore, the device disclosed by the applicant can only be operated either as a manually operated device or a pneumatic operated device, but not both at the same time.” Claim 32 is directed to a combination comprising a “guide”, a “pneumatic actuator couplable to the guide,” and a “manual actuator couplable to the guide.” The pneumatic actuator and the manual actuator are both “couplable” to the guide, and does not require that they both operate at the same time. Support for claim 21 can be found throughout the specification, for example, see page 1 lines 16 et seq., page 2 lines 20 et seq., and page 4 lines 1 et seq.

Regarding the rejection of claims 14, 17-19, 21-26 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 3,583,496 to Fehrs, Fehrs does not disclose or suggest “a guide” in combination with “a pneumatic actuator couplable to the guide” and “a manual actuator couplable to the guide.”

Regarding the rejection of claims 27 and 28 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Pat. No. Fehrs in view of U.S. Pat. No. 3,929,056 to Lange (“Lange”), neither Fehrs nor Lange disclose or suggest individually or in combination “a guide” in combination with “a pneumatic actuator couplable to the guide” and “a manual actuator couplable to the guide.”

Regarding the rejection of claims 29-31 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Fehrs in view of U.S. Pat. No. 3,215,324 to Dorney, neither Fehrs nor Dorney disclose or suggest individually or in combination “a guide” in combination with “a pneumatic actuator couplable to the guide” and “a manual actuator couplable to the guide.”

Regarding the rejection of claims 14 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lange, Lange does not disclose or suggest “a guide” in combination with “a pneumatic actuator couplable to the guide” and “a manual actuator couplable to the guide.”

Regarding the rejection of claim 15 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Lange in view of Dorney, neither Lange nor Dorney disclose or suggest individually or in combination "a guide" in combination with "a pneumatic actuator couplable to the guide" and "a manual actuator couplable to the guide."

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 14, 16-26 and 33 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Pat. No. 4,627,563 to Meyer, neither Meyer nor Fehrs disclose or suggest individually or in combination "a guide" in combination with "a pneumatic actuator couplable to the guide" and "a manual actuator couplable to the guide."

In view of the foregoing amendment and supporting remarks, the subject application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview would expedite the allowance of this application, he is requested to contact the undersigned for a prompt resolution of any outstanding issues.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and shortages and other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435, with reference to file 5823-70103.

Respectfully submitted,

BARNES & THORNBURG



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